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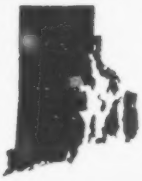

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STATE OF
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ISLAND
J. JOSEPH GARRAHY
GOVERNOR

EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN

VOLUME 26 NOVEMBER 1980 NUMBER 11

R. I. JOBS INCREASE TO 396,400 IN OCTOBER

Employment in Rhode Island increased from September to October for the first time in five years. Employment in manufacturing rose seasonally as expected, but the normal large seasonal downturn in nonmanufacturing was held back somewhat by the end of a labor dispute and lower than normal losses in the Services sector, according to Mary C. Hackett, Director of the Department of Employment Security.

According to preliminary estimates, prepared by the Department of Employment Security in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, 396,400 men and women were employed in Rhode Island in mid-October. This represents a monthly increase of 1,500 jobs, but total employment still lags behind last year by 8,300 jobs.

MANUFACTURING

The number of manufacturing employees in October was estimated at 128,400, an increase of 1,600 jobs over the month, but still 5,900 below the figure of one year ago.

Durable Goods employment rose by 500 jobs to 55,300 in mid-October. The Transportation Equipment and Instruments segments each rose by 300 jobs in the month, to reach totals of 7,700 and 5,300, respectively. The increase in Transportation Equipment raises that industry to its highest total ever, while Instruments' gain represents a recall of many workers from short-term layoffs and moves the industry total closer to its pre-July level. Fabricated Metals firms added 200 jobs in the month and Lumber/Furniture employment rose by 100 jobs. Declines of 200 jobs each were reported by firms in Nonelectrical Machinery and Stone, Clay, and Glass (the latter being mostly a seasonal slowdown).

(Continued on Page 4)

1981 TAXABLE WAGE BASE

Complying with State law, Mary C. Hackett, Employment Security Director, has announced that the 1981 wage base on which employers pay R. I. Employment Security taxes has been established at $7,800 for the tax year which begins January 1, 1981. The current taxable wage base is $7,200.

The new $7,800 base is equal to 70 percent of the annual average wage earned by all workers who were covered by the R. I. Employment Security Act in 1979. Total wages paid in 1979 to covered workers amounted to $3,501,711,945. The average monthly number of covered workers was 316,604. Consequently the annual average wage was $11,060. Seventy percent of this average is $7,742, rounded upward to the next highest multiple of $200 - or $7,800.

Experience Rating Schedule I will continue to be in effect for 1981. Tax rates in this schedule range from 2.8% to 6.0% of the employer's taxable payroll. Employers will be notified of their individual tax rate for 1981 with the mailing of the first quarterly reports next March.

IN COOPERATION WITH THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

JOB SERVICE

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1980	Sept. 1980	Oct. 1979
Total Placements	2,504 P	2,320	3,186
New Applications	4,925 P	6,657	5,230
New Openings Received	3,557 P	4,050	4,479

P — Preliminary

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	Oct. 1980	Sept. 1980	% Change from Sept.
Initial Claims	8,488	9,775	— 13.2
No. of Payments	61,721	74,490	— 17.1
Amt. of Payments	$5,326,213	$6,160,428	— 13.5
Exhaustions	1,481	1,724	— 14.1

EXTENDED BENEFITS PROGRAM

Statistics for the Extended Benefits Program, the cost of which is shared by the State and the Federal Government, are presented below:

	Oct. 1980	Sept. 1980	% Change from Sep.
Initial Claims	1,785	3,206	— 44.3
No. of Payments	15,871	32,130	— 50.6
Amt. of Payments	$1,479,499	$2,648,367	— 44.1

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed
OCTOBER 1980

	Number	Percent
Sex and Age		
TOTAL	14,592	100.0
Men	7,783	53.3
Under 45	5,540	71.2
45 and over	2,243	28.8
Women	6,809	46.7
Under 45	4,014	59.0
45 and over	2,795	41.0
Industry Attachment		
Contract Construction	1,362	9.3
Manufacturing	5,682	38.9
Public Utilities	646	4.4
Trade	2,101	14.4
Finance-Insurance-Real Estate	505	3.5
Service	2,266	15.5
All Other	2,030	13.9
Occupational Skills		
Prof., Tech. and Mgr.	2,102	14.4
Clerical and Sales	2,747	18.8
Service	1,150	7.9
Forestry, Fishery, and Rel.	164	1.1
Processing	611	4.2
Machine Trades	1,526	10.5
Bench Work	2,242	15.4
Structural Work	1,655	11.3
Miscellaneous	1,561	10.7
Not Available	835	5.7

Providence-Warwick-Pawtucket Labor Area

Labor Force-Unemployment Estimates
(In Thousands)

	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	451.1	453.4	454.6
Unemployment	28.4	34.5	27.3
Rate (Unadjusted)	6.3	7.6	6.0
Seas. Adjusted Rate	6.8	7.4	6.5

Newport Labor Area

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates

	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	31,700	30,425	28,830
Unemployment	1,460	1,433	1,370
Rate (Unadjusted)	4.6	4.5	4.8

Westerly Labor Area

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates

	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	14,515	14,028	13,620
Unemployment	710	868	765
Rate (Unadjusted)	4.9	5.8	5.5

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The following cities and towns have been classified as Labor Surplus Areas by the U. S. Department of Labor. The classifications are effective through May 31, 1981. Establishments located in these cities and towns are eligible for preference in receiving federal contracts.

Bristol
Central Falls
Charlestown
East Providence
Johnston
Narragansett
New Shoreham
North Providence
Providence
Warren
West Warwick
Woonsocket

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS, AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT					PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES					
	In Thousands			Net Change From		Weekly Earnings		Weekly Hours		Hourly Earnings	
INDUSTRY GROUP	Oct. 1980	Sep. 1980	Oct. 1979	Sep. 1980	Oct. 1979	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979
ALL MANUFACTURING	128.4	126.8	134.3	+ 1600	— 5900	$221.52	$203.31	39.0	38.8	$5.68	$5.24
DURABLE GOODS	55.3	54.8	57.0	+ 500	— 1700	255.15	233.60	40.5	40.0	6.30	5.84
PRIMARY METALS	7.8	7.8	8.1†	0	— 300	271.13	251.08	42.9	42.7	6.32	5.88
FABRICATED METALS	9.2	9.0	10.3	+ 200	— 1100	210.18	200.67	37.6	37.3	5.59	5.38
NON-ELEC. MACHINERY	9.2	9.4	9.5	— 200	— 300	313.65	288.77	42.5	43.1	7.38	6.70
ELEC. MACHINERY	10.9	10.9	11.9	0	— 1000	212.24	192.51	37.9	37.6	5.60	5.12
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	3.0	3.2	3.3	— 200	— 300	264.12	240.83	42.6	42.4	6.20	5.68
TRANSPORTATION EQUIP	7.7	7.4	6.5	+ 300	+ 1200	297.32	269.84	41.7	39.8	7.13	6.78
INSTRUMENTS	5.3	5.0	5.5	+ 300	— 200	236.93	215.20	40.5	40.3	5.85	5.34
LUMBER-FURNITURE	2.2	2.1	1.9	+ 100	+ 300	213.94	227.66	39.4	37.2	5.43	6.12
NONDURABLE GOODS	73.1	72.0	77.3	+ 1100	— 4200	197.84	182.30	37.9	37.9	5.22	4.81
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	26.5	25.7	29.2	+ 800	— 2700	171.23	157.61	36.2	36.4	4.73	4.33
FOOD-BEVERAGE	3.3	3.4	3.5	— 100	— 200	233.00	196.04	37.4	33.8	6.23	5.80
TEXTILE PRODUCTS	12.2	11.9	12.5	+ 300	— 300	204.51	197.24	40.1	40.5	5.10	4.87
APPAREL	3.5	3.8	3.6	— 300	— 100	193.55	182.82	39.1	40.9	4.95	4.47
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.9	2.8	3.0	+ 100	— 100	222.60	195.70	40.4	38.6	5.51	5.07
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.3	5.2	5.3	+ 100	0	287.62	285.19	39.4	40.8	7.30	6.99
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.0	3.0	3.3	0	— 300	299.30	261.71	37.6	38.6	7.96	6.78
RUBBER PRODUCTS	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	— 100	230.28	202.27	40.4	39.2	5.70	5.16
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	5.4	5.5	5.6	— 100	— 200	219.79	206.89	38.9	38.9	5.65	5.19
LEATHER PRODUCTS	3.2	3.1	3.5	+ 100	— 300	148.83	128.13	37.3	35.2	3.99	3.64
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	6.1	5.9	6.0	+ 200	+ 100	176.97	163.62	37.1	37.7	4.77	4.34

1979 FIGURES REVISED. 1980 FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY. † LABOR DISPUTE

ESTIMATES ARE FOR PAY PERIOD WHICH INCLUDES THE 12TH OF THE MONTH

COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

LABOR TURNOVER RATES IN RHODE ISLAND
(Per 100 Employees)
SEPTEMBER 1980

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	TOTAL			NEW HIRES			TOTAL			QUITS			LAY-OFF RATES		
	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979	Sept. 1980	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.8	7.0	3.9	3.2	5.9	4.9	5.6	7.2	2.9	2.6	4.8	1.3	2.0	1.2
DURABLE GOODS	3.8	5.4	5.5	2.6	2.3	5.0	3.8	6.0	5.3	2.1	2.2	3.4	1.0	2.9	0.9
Primary Metals	2.4	5.0	2.7	2.0	1.4	2.4	3.3	7.5	3.9	1.7	2.2	1.5	0.9	4.9	2.0
Fabricated Metals	3.5	3.5	6.3	2.4	2.8	5.3	3.6	4.1	6.7	2.5	2.2	3.7	0.5	0.6	1.0
Non-Elec. Mach.	2.4	2.0	3.0	1.6	0.9	2.5	2.4	2.9	3.0	0.9	1.0	1.7	0.6	1.3	0.3
Electrical Mach.	6.2	7.9	6.5	3.4	1.9	5.9	5.2	10.8	6.8	2.5	2.7	5.4	2.0	6.7	0.4
Instruments-Optical	3.3	12.0	5.4	1.5	1.8	5.1	3.2	4.9	4.7	1.5	1.7	3.5	1.0	2.2	0.4
OTHER DURABLE GOODS *	6.0	11.9	8.7	5.1	8.2	8.2	5.6	10.0	6.8	4.0	4.5	4.2	0.8	4.5	1.7
NONDUR. GOODS	6.7	6.1	8.1	4.9	3.9	6.5	5.8	5.3	8.6	3.5	3.0	5.9	1.5	1.3	1.4
Food-Beverage	10.7	8.6	12.3	3.9	3.9	7.0	5.8	4.4	7.2	4.3	2.4	5.3	0.5	0.9	1.1
Textiles	4.5	5.4	6.4	3.4	3.5	5.5	4.0	4.9	5.9	2.5	2.7	3.6	0.7	1.1	1.0
Apparel	5.5	3.8	7.3	2.2	1.6	3.1	4.3	6.0	6.5	1.2	1.2	2.3	2.5	4.1	3.6
Paper & Allied Prod.	5.8	6.4	7.5	4.7	4.4	6.5	7.2	4.9	8.1	3.3	3.3	6.3	3.5	0.6	0.7
Rubber & Plas.Prod.	5.4	8.1	5.5	4.5	3.4	4.6	4.8	4.6	6.5	3.4	2.8	4.4	0.0	0.3	0.1
Jewelry & Silverware	7.7	6.2	8.2	5.6	4.3	6.5	6.3	5.7	9.6	3.5	3.4	5.6	2.1	1.4	2.4
OTHER NONDURABLE GOODS * *	6.5	5.5	10.2	5.7	4.1	9.3	6.8	5.6	10.4	4.7	3.4	9.1	1.1	1.4	0.2

RATES FOR SEPTEMBER 1980 ARE PRELIMINARY. RATES FOR AUGUST 1980 AND SEPTEMBER 1979 ARE FINAL.

* INCLUDES: LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS; STONE, CLAY AND GLASS PRODUCTS AND TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT.

** INCLUDES: PRINTING, PUBLISHING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES; CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS; LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	Employment in Thousands			Net Change From	
	Oct. 1980	Sept. 1980	Oct. 1979	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT *	396.4	394.9	404.7	+ 1500	– 8300
MANUFACTURING	128.4	126.8	134.3	+ 1600	– 5900
NONMANUFACTURING	268.0	268.1	270.4	– 100	– 2400
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	12.6	12.7	15.1	– 100	– 2500
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13.0	13.3	13.5	– 300	– 500
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	80.1	79.8	81.5	+ 300	– 1400
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	20.3	20.3	21.1	0	– 800
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	81.9	82.6	79.4	– 700	+ 2500
GOVERNMENT (Federal, State & Local)	60.1	59.4 †	59.8	+ 700	+ 300

1980 FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY. 1979 FIGURES HAVE BEEN REVISED. † Labor Dispute
ESTIMATES ARE FOR PAY PERIOD WHICH INCLUDES THE 12TH OF THE MONTH.
COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.
* FARMERS; SELF-EMPLOYED; DOMESTIC AND ARMED SERVICES PERSONNEL ARE EXCLUDED.

(Continued from Page 1)

Nondurable Goods manufacturing employment grew by 1,100 jobs in October to a total of 73,100. Jewelry/Silverware firms led the way, adding 800 jobs in the month to reach a total of 26,500, the highest monthly total since January of this year. Textile firms added 300 jobs to reach 12,200 in mid-October, while Miscellaneous Manufacturing firms added 200 jobs, to a level of 6,100. Gains of 100 jobs each were reported in Paper Products (2,900), Printing/Publishing (5,300), and Leather (3,200). Apparel firms dropped 300 jobs to 3,500 and Food/Beverages and Plastics each reported losses of 100 jobs in the month.

NONMANUFACTURING

The number of men and women gainfully employed in the State's nonmanufacturing industries remained almost even with last month, declining by only 100 jobs in October to a level of 268,000.

A gain of 700 jobs in local education (mostly attributable to the end of a labor dispute) and a gain of 100 in municipal government payrolls was minimally offset by a loss of 100 jobs in Federal employment. The total Government employment for October stands at 60,100.

Overall, the Trades sector rose by 300 jobs in the month to 80,100, reversing a normal September-October downturn. One underlying reason for this apparent anomaly is that while increases occurred as expected in Department Stores, Food Stores and Miscellaneous Retail outlets, the employment downturns in other segments were softened considerably by already below-normal employment levels.

In the Service industries, jobs declined by 700 to a level of 81,900. Nearly all losses were attributable to normal seasonal downturns in Hotels/Motels, Amusement/Recreation, and Social Service jobs. Over the year, however, employment in the Services sector was up by 2,500 jobs due in large measure to increases in the health service industry.

Transportation and Public Utilities firms showed a seasonal decrease of 300 jobs to 13,000, while in Construction, the monthly decline was limited to 100 jobs, to a level of 12,600. Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate firms remained stable over the month at 20,300.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Average weekly hours were up .2 hours over the year, but at 39.0, reflect a decline of .9 hours over the month. Average hourly earnings of $5.68 were paid to Rhode Island's manufacturing workforce in October. This figure represents an increase of 44 cents an hour over last year, and 4 cents an hour over the month.

Average weekly earnings for manufacturing workers rose by $18.21 in the yearly comparison, but fell (due to the drop in hours) $3.52 from September.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force -- Unemployment Estimates
(In Thousands)

	Oct. 1980	Sept. 1980	Oct. 1979
Civilian Labor Force	459.2	457.4	450.7
Unemployment	27.0	27.7	26.2
Rate (Unadjusted)	5.9	6.1	5.8
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	6.8	6.7	5.7

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RHODE ISLAND JOB SERVICE OFFICES

EAST PROVIDENCE, 877 Broadway 277-3537
NEWPORT, 268 Bellevue Avenue. 847-2038
PAWTUCKET, 109 Main St. 722-7500
PROVIDENCE, 40 Fountain St.
Professional, Clerical & Sales 277-3579
Jewelry 277-3553
Manufacturing 277-3556
Construction 277-3559
Hotel, Hospital, Household & Restaurant 277-3559
NO. PROVIDENCE, 1951 Smith St. 231-5290
QUONSET POINT, Bldg. No. 523 277-3521
294-4505
WAKEFIELD, Washington County Gov't Center
Tower Hill Road 789-9721
WARREN, 57 Everett Street 245-9300
WARWICK, 50 Airport Road. 737-7550
WESTERLY, 57 Spruce Street. 596-2814
WEST WARWICK, 1330 Main St. 838-6134
WOONSOCKET, 217 Pond St.. 762-9010

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